

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1.     An information system providing information relating to a  
2     specified site, to users of the specified site, comprising:  
3                 a communications network serving a service area within the  
4     site;  
5                 a server coupled to the communications network, the server  
6     including a database of information relating to specific locations within  
7     the site, including a geoencoded map of the site, and including  
8     information relating to the site;  
9                 a terminal device including a processor and a display, the  
10    terminal device in communications with the communications network and  
11    configured to access information relating to the site from the server by a  
12    user of the site; and  
13                 a user interface provided on the display of the terminal  
14    device, the user interface including user selectable options and configured  
15    to selectively provide site user information to a site user, including access  
16    to the database of information on the server.
- 1           2.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2     site is a resort.
- 1           3.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2     site is a ski resort.
- 1           4.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2     site is an airport.
- 1           5.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2     site is a convention center.

1           6.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2 site is an amusement park.

1           7.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2 site is a campus.

1           8.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the specified  
2 site is a cruise ship.

1           9.     The information system of Claim 1, wherein the terminal  
2 device is a handheld computer including a radio frequency transceiver.

1           10.    The information system of Claim 9, wherein the  
2 communications network includes at least one RF transceiver coupled  
3 thereto and configured to provide communications with the handheld  
4 computer.

1           11.    The information system of Claim 10, wherein the RF  
2 transceiver of the handheld computer and the RF transceiver of the  
3 communications network are configured to use IEEE 802.11 standards.

1           12.    An information system providing information relating to a  
2 specified site, to users of the specified site, comprising:

3                   a communications network serving a service area within the  
4 site;

5                   a server coupled to the communications network, the server  
6 including a database of information relating to locations within the site,  
7 information relating to the site and information relating to users of the  
8 site;

9                   a navigation database external to the communications  
10 network and in communication with the communications network, the

11 navigation database including information relating to locations outside of  
12 the specified site;

13 a terminal device including a processor and a display, the  
14 terminal device in communications with the communications network and  
15 configured to access information from the server; and

16 a user interface provided on the display of the terminal  
17 device, the user interface including user selectable options and configured  
18 to selectively provide site user information to a site user.

1 13. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is a resort.

1 14. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is a ski resort.

1 15. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is an airport.

1 16. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is a convention center.

1 17. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is an amusement park.

1 18. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is a campus.

1 19. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the specified  
2 site is a cruise ship.

1 20. The information system of Claim 12, wherein the terminal  
2 device is a handheld computer including a radio frequency transceiver.

1           21. The information system of Claim 20, wherein the  
2       communications network includes at least one RF transceiver coupled  
3       thereto and configured to provide communications with the handheld  
4       computer.

1           22. The information system of Claim 21, wherein the RF  
2       transceiver of the handheld computer and the RF transceiver of the  
3       communications network are configured to use IEEE 802.11 standards.

1           23. A method of providing information to users of a specified  
2       site, comprising the steps of:  
3                receiving a request for information relating to the site from a  
4       terminal device over a communication network specifically serving the  
5       site;  
6                searching a database for the requested information relating  
7       to the site;  
8                generating a result of the requested information; and  
9                transmitting the resulting information to the terminal device  
10      used by a user of the site that initiated the request for information.

1           24. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2       the request for information is transmitted over a wireless communications  
3       link with the communications network

1           25. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2       the results of the database search for the requested information are  
3       transmitted over a wireless communications link with the communications  
4       network.

1           26.   The method of providing information of Claim 23 further  
2 comprising:

3                   receiving a global positioning system (GPS) signal; and  
4                   generating a location based on the GPS signal.

1           27.   The method of providing information of Claim 23 further  
2 comprising:

3                   downloading an application to a handheld computing device  
4 from an access device.

1           28.   The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the communications network includes:

3                   a server coupled to the communications network, the server  
4 including a database of information relating to locations within the site,  
5 information relating to the site and information relating to users of the  
6 site.

1           29.   The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to a ski resort.

1           30.   The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to an airport.

1           31.   The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to a convention center.

1           32.   The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to an amusement park.

1           33.   The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to a campus.

1           34. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to a cruise ship.

1           35. The method of providing information of Claim 23, wherein  
2 the requested information relates to a an off-site location.

1           36. The method of providing information of Claim 26, wherein  
2 the terminal device is a handheld computer including a radio frequency  
3 transceiver.

1           37. The method of providing information of Claim 36, wherein  
2 the communications network includes at least one RF transceiver coupled  
3 thereto and configured to provide communications with the handheld  
4 computer.

1           38. The method of providing information of Claim 37, wherein  
2 the RF transceiver of the handheld computer and the RF transceiver of the  
3 communications network are configured to use IEEE 802.11 standards.

1           39. The method of providing information of Claim 23, further  
2 comprising:  
3               debiting a user account according to usage of the  
4 communications network.

1           40. The method of providing information of Claim 23, further  
2 comprising:  
3               debiting a user account for usage of the terminal device.

1           41. The method of providing information of Claim 23, further  
2 comprising:  
3               purchasing goods or services using a terminal device.